Enhancing the earning of Railways

†603. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the earning from passenger and goods trains during the last three years;

(b) whether Government is considering a new plan for enhancing it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The earning from Passenger and Goods traffic during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Passenger	Goods
2004-05	14112.54	30778.40
2005-06	15126.00	36286.97
2006-07	17224.56	41716.50

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Railways have introduced a number of schemes like A slew of Freight Incentive Scheme has been launched this year for attracting more rail traffic like;

Traditional Empty Flow Direction (30% discount), Loading Bagged Consignment in BOXN (40% discount), Long term Special Incentive Scheme (20% concession), Incremental Traffic (15% discount), Lump sum Special Rates and Service Level Agreement, Freight Forwarders, Two Leg Freight Concession (15% in busy season and 20% in lean season).

Besides, Ministry of Railways has been considering individual proposal for grant of Freight Concession in Freight Rates to tap traffic. Few proposals are as:

30% concession of booking of Iron-ore, 50% concession for rice traffic, 15% concession for timber waste and 13% concession on movement of gunny bale or jute traffic.

For passenger traffic following steps have been taken to increase the earnings: Generating additional seating capacity in trains by introducing new trains, reduction of fare of 1st AC and 2nd AC, attaching additional coaches to clear wait listed passengers and introduction of upgradation scheme to upgrade full fare paying passenger to next higher class against available accommodation.

Income of Railways from foreign tourists

†604. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the earning of the Railways from foreign tourists during the last two years;

(b) whether Government is considering a special plan to attract foreign tourists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The total earnings from passenger traffic of the railways is as under:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.